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The Rule of Force.

BY J. A. EDGERTON.

You may teach it over and over again,
 The doctrine that might makes right;
 You may seek to wash out the murderer's stain,
 But you never can make it white.

You may turn to the old world doctrine of blood,
 Nor think of the awful cost;
 You may close your eyes to the Red Sea flood
 And the hosts of the tyrant lost.

You may think with safety once more to tread
 The pathway of tyranny;
 But there comes a voice from the world of the dead
 That tells you the penalty.

The doctrines of force and fraud and blood
 Are waning away from earth;
 The gospel of love and brotherhood
 Is the new creed come to birth.

The day-dawn breaks for Humanity,
 The reign of the Prince of Peace,
 When all the people at last are free
 To share in the world's increase.

This motto proclaimed the sons of morn
 To the kingdoms that lived in night:
 "The peoples of earth are equal-born,
 Inheriting equal right."

You may seek to efface this truth if you will,
 At the blind dictation of Greed,
 But 'twill shine on high in its glory still,
 Till all of the world shall heed.

Oh, let us banish the reign of might,
 While the world is yet in its youth;
 And bring in the age-long epoch of right,
 Ruled over by love and truth.

Oh, let us grapple the evil now,
 And once and for all make plain
 That the sons of God no more will bow
 Unto those with the mark of Cain.

DENVER, COL.

International Trade Leading to Permanent Peace.*

BY JOHN CROSBY BROWN, OF NEW YORK.

I always feel that when we enter upon the discussion of this question of international arbitration from the business standpoint, we are descending somewhat from that high ethical and moral ground upon which its justice and its reasonableness ought always to be upheld. But in every great movement for the betterment of mankind it is wise to make use of all forces and influences that are working in that direction, and I am confident from my own experience that the various business interests of the world at large are slowly but surely making for the peace of the world.

The language employed in describing the subject that is to engage our attention this evening lifts the question just a little above the narrow limits of national self-interest to the broader plane of the world's welfare. I want to call your attention to this language. We are to consider the influence of the industrial, commercial and financial forces of the world in favor of international arbitration. The question is not the influence of these industrial, commercial and financial forces on our own country; it is not even the question of the influence of these forces at work in the Anglo-Saxon race, which sometimes we are apt, with too little modesty, to exalt at the expense of all the rest of the world. It is a broader question than that. It embraces these great forces at work in France, in Germany, in Russia, in Italy, in South America, in all the civilized countries of the world. And it is even a broader question than that. It takes in all these forces that are at work along these same lines in the civilization of the East and of the islands of the sea. And if we are to learn anything from the experience of the past,—while of course there have been a great many commercial wars,—the more the world is brought together, the more we come to know of one another, the larger the interests that different parts of the world have at stake in other parts of the world, the greater is that bond of peace and unity that binds us together.

It is not so very long ago when, apart from the foreign trade of this country, our domestic trade and business was practically very little influenced by anything occurring outside of the country, and it scarcely had any influence whatever in the great financial centres of the world. I remember that when as a young man I was getting my business training in Liverpool, the financial news from the United States was usually confined to a few sentences in the leading morning London journal. The provincial papers,—those published in Liverpool and Manchester,—which were in closer touch with the United States, had perhaps a little larger space devoted to the financial and business news from this country. We were a factor that did not count for much in the great financial movements of the old world. But all this has changed. In the last few years there has been a wonderful transformation, and I venture to say that there is not an intelligent or prudent business man in any part of this country who would venture for one moment to enter upon any enterprise of magnitude without keeping his hand upon the financial pulse of the world and without noting the changes in that pulse that are brought to him every morning by the cable from the financial centres of Europe and even of the Orient. And so much is this the case that even in the management of our domestic affairs it is absolutely essential at the present time, if a man is to be up-to-date and on his guard, that he shall know something of what is going on in the great financial centres, because there can no disturbance occur, financial or political, in any part of the world that is not instantly, to a greater or lesser degree, felt in every financial centre of this country, so closely are we bound together.

Public attention has recently been called to the alarm that seems to have been occasioned in certain of the countries of Europe, by the appearance of this country

* From an address given at the last Mohonk Arbitration Conference.